MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your response?

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : It is mentioned in Article 25 of the Constitution that :-

> "(2) Nothing in this article shall affect the operation of any existing law or prevent the State from making any law -
>
> (a) regulating or restricting any economic, financial, political or other secular activity...
>
> (b) providing for social welfare and reform..."

[Translation]

This is clearcut, It has been clearly mentioned in Article 26. Article 44 is also clear. In Sarla Mudgal Case, it was said that the Government will bring the Bill, I have also raised a question about it earlier, I am now compelled to bring this Bill. I have raised a question in the Lok Sabha on 2nd August 1996 to have an Uniform Code for all the citizens. This matter was finally decided by Justice Sahia and Kuldeep Singh Ji.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can put all these things lateron.

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Article 25(2) is clear about it, I do not agree with the hon'ble member. and leave be granted to me to introduce this Bill.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

> "That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for uniform marriage and divorce law for all citizens for the country."

[Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.57½ hrs.

HINDU MARRIAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Section 5, etc.)

[English]

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagarkurnool) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Hindu Marriage Act, 1995.

* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-II, Section-2, dated 20-12-96.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

> "That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955."

The motion was adopted.

DR. M. JAGANNATH : I introduce the Bill.

15.58½ hrs.

FOREST (CONSERVATION) AMENDMENT BILL*

(Amendment of Section 2, etc.)

[Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Sir, I beg to move that leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Forest (Conservations) Act, 1980.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

> "That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

16.00 hrs.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION BILL

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We shall take up further consideration on this Bill. Shri Hannan Mollah to speak.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank Shri Reddy for bringing in this Private Members' Bill for providing free and compulsory education for all children of this country. It is an avowed dream since Independence. Our first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had announced that he would provide education to all the children. Accordingly, people had their aspiration that it would be fulfilled in course of time.

In our Constitution also, in the Chapter on Directive Principles it has been stated that within ten years, this

* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-II, Section-2, dated 20-12-96